

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02

SS-15 ICA-11 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 IO-13

MCT-01 /105 W

-----052707 280026Z /63

R 262237Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 639

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SHUM, PE

SUBJECT: APRA, PPC AND FOCEP SPOKESMEN ON CONTACTO DIRECTO

REF: (A) LIMA 5151, (B) LIMA 5509, (C) LIMA 5574

1. AFTER A SUSPENSION OF FIVE MONTHS, THE POPULAR TV INTERVIEW PROGRAM CONTACTO DIRECTO REAPPEARED EVENING JUNE 25 (LIMA 0937). PROGRAM DIRECTOR ALFREDO BARNECHEA AFTER URING RETURN OF EXILED POLITICAL LEADERS, INTERVIEWED SPOKESMEN FOR THE LEADING THREE PARTIES APRA, PPC AND FOCEP. ENRIQUE FERNANDEZ OF FOCEP SPENT SEVERAL MINUTES DISASSOCIATING HIMSELF FROM FOCEP CANDIDATE HUGO BLANCO'S PROPOSALS TO NATIONALIZE MOST BUSINESSES IN THE COUNTRY, BUT WENT ON THE REPUDIATE PERUS FOREIGN DEBTS AND SUPPORT EXPROPRIATION WITHOUT COMPENSATION OF ALL FOREIGN OWNED ENTERPRISES IN THE NATION. ALTHOUGH FOCEP'S SPOKESMAN CLAIMED THAT HIS FRONT WAS DISPOSED TO COOPERATE WITH ALL THE PARTIES IN ACCORD WITH FOCEP'S POSITIONS, THE INTERVIEW DID LITTLE TO DISPEL DOUBTS ABOUTS FOCEP'S ABILITY TO REACH A CONSENSUS SOON EVEN AMONG ITS OWN LEADERS.

2. WHEN ASKED IF THE PPC MIGHT "LEGITIMIZE" THE CURRENT DE FACTO MILITARY GOVERNMENT, ROBERTO RAMIREZ DEL VILLAR EMPHASIZED THAT

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UNDER THE PRESENT CONSTITUTION THERE IS NO PROVISION PERMITTING THE NAMING OF A PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT. RAMIREZ, WHO STAYED CLOSE TO THE LINE EARLIER PRESENTED TO US BY PPC LEADER LUIS BEDOYA REYES, DID INDICATE THAT PPC MIGHT BE WILLING TO SUPPORT SOME GENRAL STATEMENTS ENDORSING CERTAIN REFORMS CARRIED OUT BY THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT (REF A).

3. ANDRES TOWNSEND OF APRA FLATLY REJECTED THE POSSIBILITY THAT HIS PARTY WOULD MOVE TO CONSTITUTIONALIZE THE GOVERNMENT OF MORALES BERMUDEZ. ASKED WITH WHAT GROUPS APRA MIGHT FORM ALLIANCES, TOWNSEND NOTED THAT IT WAS FIRST NECESSARY TO LEARN THE OFFICIAL RESULTS OF THE ELECTION (APRA HAS ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE TO THIS EFFECT). HE ADDED THAT THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY DIFFERED FROM A PARLIAMENT AND THAT ALLIANCES WERE THEREFORE LESS ESSENTIAL. REITERATING WHAT HE HAD EARLIER TOLD EMBASSY OFFICERS, TOWNSEND SUGGESTED THAT APRA MIGHT VOTE ON SOME ISSUES WITH PPC AND ON OTHERS WITH FOCEP. (REF B).

4. COMMENT: PROGRAM CONTAINED LITTLE NEW BUT ITS REAPPEARANCE ON TV WAS ANOTHER INDICATION OF GOP'S SUPPORT FOR THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND A RESTORATION OF DEMOCRATIC LIBERTIES (REF C).

SHLAUDEMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 jun 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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